(b) if so, the reasons for regular delay in the schedule of this train; and

(c) the steps proposed to monitor the punctuality of this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Sometimes trains do run late due to various reasons like cyclone, bad weather, accidents, agitations/bandhs, equipment/loco failures, grid failures and alarm chain pullings etc. All efforts including intensive chasing and daily monitoring at different levels are being undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officer's level are also being launched. However, necessary instructions have once again been issued to Southern Railway to monitor the running of 6721/6722 Chennai-Kanyakumari Express and to ensure its punctual running.

कालका-परवाणु बड़ी लाइन का सर्वेक्षण

2224. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के अनुरोध पर कालका-परवाणु (हिमाचल प्रदेश) के लिये किया जा रहा बड़ी रेल लाइन का सर्वेक्षण पूरा कर लिया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके कब तक पूरा किये जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) इस कार्य में विलंब के क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) और (ख) हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के लिए निक्षेप कार्य के रूप में कालका से परवाणु तक एक औद्योगिक साइडिंग के लिए सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया गया था। यह सर्वेक्षण कार्य पूरा हो गया है तथा रिपोर्ट हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार को 06.3.97 को भेज दी गई है। इस परियोजना के क्रियान्वयन के संबंध में आगे विचार हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार से उत्तर प्राप्त होने के बाद किया जाएगा।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

AC III-Tier Coaches in Trains

2225. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the long distance trains leaving Delhi/New Delhi and Nizamuddin which are provided with A.C.-III tier coaches;

(b) whether there is increasing demand for attching AC-III tier coaches on each and every long distance train;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps in that regard;

(d) if so, the steps taken to attach AC-III tier coaches in 2815-2816 Puri Express, 8485-8486 Neelachal Express and 8477-8478 Kalinga-Utkal Express; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A statement is enclosed. (*see* below)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) A.C. 3 tier coach is equipped with air brake whereas these trains are running on vacuum brake. Conversion of long distance trains into air brake and provision of AC 3 tier is being done in a phased manner. Purshottam Express between New Delhi and Puri has been provided with Airbrake coaches and A.C. 3 tier during 1996-97. Conversion of these trains will also be considered alongwith other similar demands in later years.

Statement

A.C. III Tier Coaches in Trains

List of long distance Mail/Express trains leaving Delhi/New Delhi/Nizamuddin having A.C. 3 tier accommodation:

1. 2421/2422 Bhubaneshwar Rajdhani Express
2. 2801/2802 Purshottam Express
3. 1037/1038 Punjab Mail
4. 2301/2302 Howrah Rajdhani Express
5. 2305/2306 Howrah Rajdhani Express